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OUR LONDON LETTER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE RETIREMENT OF THE ENEMY
IN THE WEST.WAR WORK AND THE SUPPLY OF
FOOD.

LONDON, March 28th.

Many reasons are being assigned to account for the German retreat on the Ancre; and two are canvassed as the most probable. One is that the enemy found himself unable to hold on to the territory he has abandoned. The second is that he desired to upset the plans and calculations of the Allies in the West for assuming the grand offensive. Under the conditions of modern warfare it is difficult suddenly to make a big attack. Weeks of careful preparation are needed; for roads have to be constructed and railways must be laid to enable supplies and heavy guns to be moved up. But if the Germans expected to throw the Allies' plans out of gear they have failed in their object. For the British line now extends from a point established in September, 1914, in contact with the Belgians somewhere west of Ypres to a point in the south about Roye. In other words, we are holding 130 miles of front line trenches. The "contemptible little army" which held only ten miles of trenches, a couple of years ago, has indeed grown into a mighty military organisation. The Huns may try to postpone conclusions at one point, or Hindenburg may have something up his sleeve in the nature of a surprise; but we shall soon know where the great push on one side or the other will be delivered.

MOBILISING THE NATION.

With such a prodigious host of soldiers in France and elsewhere the demand of the British authorities for men is imperative. Except where the manufacture of munitions is concerned the strain on man-power is beginning to be felt in the industrial world at home. In some trades firms which formerly employed hundreds are reduced to scores, and where there were scores there are now only a few male assistants. The little men in a small way of business have gone under in numberless instances, and there are others still to go the same road. War is a hard and bitter school. The prospect of further strain on all is clear enough. Since I wrote last week a list of "non-essential" industries has been issued—that is, trades which, in the opinion of our rulers, are not essential to the winning of the war. Moreover, no male between the age of 16 and 61 can go to a new job now. This gives the Government unlimited power to control and organise the civil population for war work as required.

SPENDING UP FOOD PRODUCTION.

Everyone who is able by any means to cultivate a plot of land has gone to gardening. Even the boys of Eton School, no less than the children of the elementary schools throughout the country, are hard at work. The idea is to raise as much food as possible and make us so self-supporting that we shall be able to laugh at the submarine "blockade." Of course, scores of thousands of enthusiasts who are purchasing "seed" potatoes to plant in the back garden, or on the tennis lawn which has been dug up in a fine frenzy of patriotic zeal, never handled a potato before except with a knife and fork at the meal table; but what would you have? The Government having called upon the people to cultivate the land, the response is amazing. In and around towns and villages from Land's End to John o' Groat's all classes have got "Back to the Land." Every hour of spare time is being spent digging up ground—building plots, waste ground, and, in some cases, the public parks—in order to grow vegetables. Since Adam delved among the apple trees in Eden there has never been such a craze for gardening; and it is to be hoped that Mother Earth, so bountiful in her response to those who have learned to know her, will be kind this year to countless ardent but inexperienced children of the spade and the hoe.

AN ABSORBING TOPIC.

This question of food production is an absorbing topic of discussion, and indeed it is likely to remain very prominently before the public for a long time to come. There are some who go so far as to say that the war may be won eventually on the corn fields and the potato patches of England. Be that as it may, there is no need to emphasise the importance of having ample supplies of home-grown food. In a war of endurance such as that in which we are engaged it is common prudence which we are engaged in common prudence.

YAUMATI SCHOOL.

SECOND ANNUAL SPORTS.

The second annual sports meeting in connection with the Yaumati Government District School took place yesterday on the school football ground at King's Park before a large gathering of parents and friends. Throughout the racing was of the keenest possible description, and Mr. A. H. Crook (the headmaster) and his staff are to be complimented on the success which attended this, their second, effort to run a sports meeting in connection with the school.

The full results were as follow:—

LONG JUMP (Senior).—1, Lui Tak; 2, Lui Tak Kai.
LONG JUMP (Junior).—1, Kwok Shu; 2, Tam Chun Tu.
HIGH JUMP (Senior).—1, Lui Tak Kai; 2, Lui Tak.
HIGH JUMP (Junior).—1, Tam Chun Fu; 2, Kwok Shu.
100 YARDS FLAT RACE (for boys up to 100).—1, Wong Hing Tat; 2, Lau Chi Cheung; 3, Chang Cheung Wah.
120 YARDS FLAT RACE (for boys 15 and over).—1, Lui Tok Kai; 2, Lui Tak; 3, Lung Tat Wu.
LEAP RACE (open to all masters of Y.M.T.S.).—1, Chan Lam Kwan; 2, Lam Pak; 3, Ho Yau Tak.
100 YARDS 3-LEGGED RACE (for boys of all ages).—1, Li Tong Wai and Chang Wing Sang; 2, Leung Tat Wu and Lung Kwai Chik.
50 YARDS SACK RACE (for boys of all ages).—1, Lam Kwai Chik; 2, Tsang Shin Hin; 3, Lung Tat Wu.
200 YARDS FLAT RACE, Handicap (for boys up to 14).—1, Tam Chun Fu; 2, Lam Man Tu; 3, Lum Ping Cheung.
440 YARDS FLAT RACE, Handicap (for boys 15 and over).—1, Lui Tak Kai; 2, Lui Tak; 3, Leung Tat Wa.
100 YARDS SPOON AND EGG RACE (for boys of all ages).—1, Lui Tak Kai; 2, Wong Sau Nam; 3, Li Chung Ling.
HURDLE FLAT RACE, Handicap (open to past pupils).—1, The Kap Kai; 2, Chin Hin Kwai; 3, Chan Tze Wing.
100 YARDS THREAD AND NEEDLE RACE, open to females.—1, Miss Chan Yuk Siu; 2, Mrs. Ho Yau Tak; 3, Mrs. Lai.
TEAM RACE, open to all classes.—1, 64; 2, 66.
TEAM RACE, open to the four Government Schools.—1, Saiyingpan; 2, Queen's College.

At the conclusion of the sports the prizes were distributed by Mrs. A. E. Ralphs, who was thanked for her services by the headmaster. Mrs. Ralphs (who was accompanied by Mr. Ralphs, Inspector of Schools) was also presented with a bouquet, and was given three hearty cheers and a "tiger." Mr. Crook also thanked the many generous donors of prizes.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

THEFT.

For stealing 5lbs. of copper from the str. *Kumang* a Chinese was sentenced to three months' hard labour and four hours' stocks. The vessel was alongside the Kowloon wharf.

EXPORTING SILVER.

There were two cases of attempting to export silver. One man was fined \$10, and \$23 was confiscated and another had \$50 confiscated and was also ordered to pay a fine of \$10.

once to make ourselves independent of foreign countries. On this point let me say, parenthetically, that the public has had such a fright that never again will British agriculture be allowed to fall into neglect. At the same time, while there is every reason why we should practise care in the matter of stocks of food, the situation is not alarming, as might be inferred from the drastic regulations issued from week to week by the Government. Doubtless we shall have to go short of one or two commodities before the next harvest is safely garnered; but the country has been warned beforehand, and is prepared for any such sacrifice as may be necessary.

WHY STOCKS OF FOOD ARE SHORT.

After all, there is some satisfaction in knowing that whatever scarcity may be experienced it is not due to the German submarine campaign. It is simply the result, in the first instance, of a world shortage of food-stuffs. Last year's wheat crop in America and Canada was below the average, and for obvious reasons the vast stores of grain in Russia and the Balkans were not available. At home the potato crop was the worst for the last 30 years. Added to this there is, as I have noted before now, a shortage of ships owing to the demands of the Government on the mercantile marine. The Lord Devonport has put the nation on its honour not to consume more than a certain quantity of food per head daily; and as far as can be ascertained, this appeal is being loyally met. Of course, there is a class of persons who will always "do themselves well" so long as they have the chance and until they are forced to act otherwise, but they are in a minority. Most people practised self-denial in eating and drinking before the Food Controller was appointed. They could not help themselves, owing to the enormously increased cost of living.

BRITISH EMPIRE AND THE
EAST.THE KING OPENS THE SCHOOL
OF ORIENTAL STUDIES.

H. M. The King, who was accompanied by the Queen and Princess Mary, opened the School of Oriental Studies at the London Institution.

Sir John P. Hewett, addressing His Majesty, said they took the King's presence as a sign that his Majesty was fully cognizant of the importance of the study of Oriental and African languages and civilizations on a scale which Great Britain alone among great countries of the world interested in the East had not hitherto regarded as necessary; and they had planned that the School should be at least equal to the Oriental schools in foreign capitals, and adequate to the needs of the Empire. They proposed to teach the languages of eight hundred million people, the imports alone with the peoples of the United Kingdom were to teach the languages of whom they were between two and three hundred millions sterling annually. But the magnitude of the scheme could not be expressed in terms of money or of the mere number of languages taught. Their teaching was only a means to an end. The greatness and solidity of the Empire in its internal and external relations rested on the comprehension of the just and sympathetic dealing and the just and sympathetic dealing with men infinitely varied in race, religion, speech, and character. They believed that the training given in the School would materially contribute to the fuller realization of the nation's ideals in the distant parts of his Majesty's Dominions, and to the prosperity and the efficient working of the Empire as a whole. If with the approval of his Majesty's Government they were starting their new career at this crisis, it was because they were deeply convinced that the task they had to fulfil, both in the task of the war and of the period which would immediately follow, could no longer safely be neglected or delayed.

The King, on rising to reply, said:—
My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen—
I thank you for your loyal and dutiful address.

I am glad to be the patron of the School of Oriental Studies, and it gives me particular gratification to take part to-day in the ceremony of opening this fine building in which the School is henceforth to carry on its work. I cannot sufficiently emphasize the wide scope and vast importance of that work. The School will afford fresh opportunities of study to those who have been the pioneers of good progress and the instrument of good government in India and Egypt. It will furnish a fuller technical equipment to the pioneers of commerce and industry who in each successive generation undertake the duty of upholding the honoured fame of British trade in the East. Its work will serve to develop the sympathy which already so happily exists between my subjects and those of my Far Eastern Ally, Japan. But more than this is to be looked for from the School.

If it happily succeeds in imparting to the pupils sent out as teachers of unshakable government and civilized commerce a clearer comprehension of the thoughts and lives of the diverse races of the East, the good effects of that success will extend far beyond the immediate and tangible results. The ancient literature and the art of India are of unique interest in the history of human endeavour. I look to the School to quicken public interest in the intellectual tradition of that great continent and to promote and assist the labours of the students in these departments of knowledge, to the mutual advantage of both countries.

The School is about to open its doors in the midst of an unparalleled crisis in the world's history. For more than two years the peoples of my Dominions, with loyalty and devotion have lived with each other in offering their blood and treasure for the prosecution of a righteous war. The sense of common sacrifice and common endeavour has drawn us all nearer to one another in feeling and sympathy. Meanwhile we believe that the peaceful labours of this institution in spreading accurate and scientific knowledge of Eastern life and thought will foster the spirit of loyalty and patriotism and knit together still closer the many nations of my Empire.

I am very conscious of how much we owe to those distinguished scholars and statesmen whose undaunted efforts have largely aided in establishing this School. I deeply regret that one of the most illustrious, Lord Cromer, has not been permitted to see the completion of his share in the work. Had he lived his wise judgment and unrivalled experience would have been of priceless value in council. I recognize and appreciate the debt of gratitude which this School owes to the public-spirited benefactors who have contributed so liberally to its endowment fund. In so doing they have rendered a service to the Empire, and I trust that the beneficence of the community will endow the School with funds adequate to all the demands which may be made upon its teaching capacity.

I now declare the School of Oriental Studies open. May God bless its labours in the advancement of learning, unity, and the advancement among my people of every race and language. The King's address was repeatedly cheered. Lord Curzon, as chairman of the General Committee, then spoke on the objects of the school. He said that his Majesty had taken part in a memorable ceremony. It marked the end of one period and the beginning of another. For years there had existed means of following Oriental studies both in King's College and in the University College of London, quite apart from the larger efforts that had been made by the old academic institutions of Oxford and Cambridge. But now, for the first time, those efforts were to be co-ordinated, unified and centralized in the metropolis of the Empire. Henceforward they would feel that they were not behind

(Continued at foot of next column.)

HINDENBURG'S HOPE.

TO CRUSH THE ENTENTE IN SIX MONTHS.

Mr. Carl W. Ackerman, formerly Berlin correspondent of the United Press, cabling from Bern recently, says:—
The serious transportation difficulties are not affecting Hindenburg's plans. Regarding everybody and everything, but the army, apparently believing a military victory is possible, and hoping to win before again facing the Socialists and other peace advocates, he is lending every utility to his purpose.

"American exports say Germany's efforts in 1917 will exceed any of the past, because it is Germany's final effort. It is win or lose in 1917 in the general opinion. The Germans believe they will win."

"Confident their submarines will paralyse the Entente's war industries, they are prepared for gigantic offensives by land, air, and water. Germany is today stronger in a military way than at any time since the war began."

War leaders expect the Entente to be at Germany's mercy in six months, despite American developments. They consider America too isolated to be of benefit to the Allies."

LAND SETTLEMENT ON THE
GRAND SCALE.

Land Colonization Overseas, on the grand scale, appears to be in the air just now. Not only is the Canadian Government itself preparing for settlement extensive tracts, as an after-the-war measure, but also private and public bodies in other countries, and 300 million acres of that between 200 and 300 million acres of the finest land in the world are officially said to be available, are maturing plans for land development on their own lines.

Lord Balfour's Committee on Commercial and Industrial Policy has recently discussed the suggestion made to the Empire Resources Development Committee that, by arrangements with the Dominion Government, the Imperial Government should acquire territory in Northern Canada, prepare it for settlement, and sell it at a profit, chiefly to Americans, with a view to the reduction of the War Debt. And now 5,000 acres of grazing land in Northern Saskatchewan have been leased for dairying purposes to farming interests in Holland. Under the control of the Dutch, who are a race of farmers, the venture promises to be profitable alike to the corporation and to the workers.

similar institutions which existed at Paris, at Petrograd, and, if he might say it with bated breath, at Berlin. Henceforward they hoped they would not be behind those rivals, or that enemy, in their equipment for that which was essentially part of the duty of the Empire. He spoke just now of Oxford and Cambridge, and he did not want anyone to imagine this was an attempt to supersede the education in Oriental subjects given at those institutions. They had placed their representatives upon the governing body and wished to work in the closest and most cordial co-operation with them.

It was nearly 10 years since a committee was formed under the chairmanship of Lord Reay which laid down the plan of that School of Oriental Studies. A good deal of hard work had been done since then. He happened to be in a position to speak to it because, first under Lord Cromer and afterwards under his successor in the chair, he was familiar with every stage of the development of the scheme. Lord Curzon, continuing, said he hoped that, as time passed, the school would become a sort of clearing house of ideas between the East and the West—a bridge between the mind and character of Great Britain and those Oriental peoples with whom she was brought into such close contact. The gap that existed between the psychology of East and West was often spoken of as though it were unpassable and impassable, but his belief was that that gap that passed it became less wide and less deep. Great indeed would be the disappointment of many of them if that place did not bring into clearer focus what he might describe as the soil of the Eastern and Western world.

There could be no happier augury for the success of such a scheme than that his Majesty should have graced the opening ceremony. There were a good many scholars and students present, but none of them would deny him when he said that his Majesty was the most travelled Sovereign since the days of the Roman Emperor Hadrian. There was hardly one of the countries the longest of which were going to be taught in that school which the King had not visited, and of which he could not speak with personal knowledge. Circumstances had thrown a good deal of his life into contact with the East, and the intimate acquaintance which his Majesty had acquired with those parts of the world had been of immense and incalculable value to the Empire of which he was the head. He hoped that all future Sovereigns of the British Empire would follow his Majesty's example in that respect, and that the central tabernacle of the Empire was set up in this country, its outer courts were thronged with countless hosts who would continue to look to us in the future as in the past for administrative guidance, for inspiration, and for example. As to the future of those countries and those peoples, and what degree of autonomy or self-government would be conceded to them, or what would be the link that would unite them to us in the future, he hoped it would never be said that the country which safeguarded them forward on a career of constitutional development, of industrial and commercial expansion, and of moral advance would shrink from the task because it became more difficult, or because the end was lost in a cloud of mist. Rather might institutions like that be a wayside inn on the road which East and West would travel together, hand in hand, in an ever-closer and fraternal union. (Cheers.)

The proceedings then terminated, and their Majesties afterwards inspected the school buildings.

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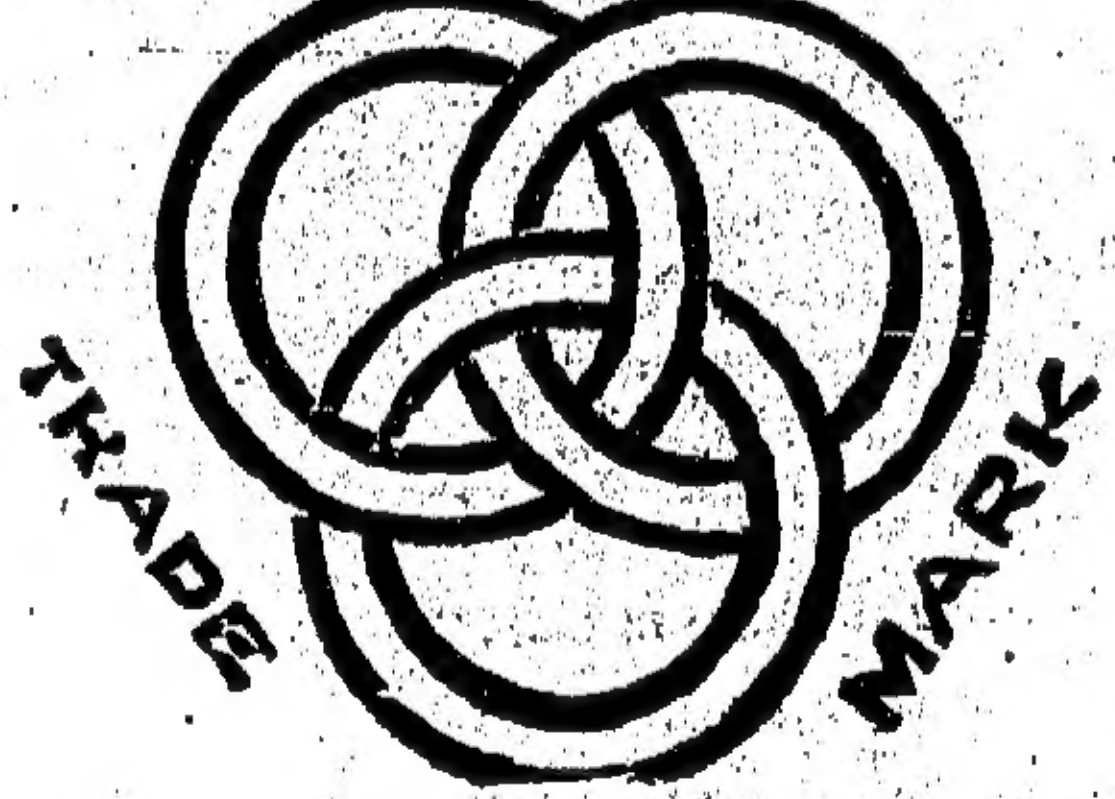
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TO-MORROW.

6 p.m.—Overseas Club, Meeting at Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co's Mess Room.

Saturday, 21st April.—
Noon—Hongkong Jockey Club, Half-Yearly Meeting.

Monday, 23rd April.—
St. George's Day.

9.15 p.m.—"Boones from Shakespeare" at the Theatre Royal.

ON SALE.

A TABLE OF THE

RATES OF EXCHANGE AT BOMBAY
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RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

The sentence of seven days' hard labour and twelve strokes with the birch which was passed on an English boy at the Hongkong Police Court last week for stealing is calculated to do far more harm than good. Corporal punishment has already been freely resorted to in this case, but it has palpably proved of no avail, and imprisonment is not likely to succeed where that has failed. To brand as a gaol-bird one who is on the very threshold of life is to destroy the last vestige of that which most stands in need of development—his self-respect—and to damn his whole future. The boy is evidently a moral imbecile, and unless he is to become a permanent menace to society and a constant burden to the tax-payers he requires careful treatment along scientific lines. There are many such as he among all classes in Great Britain, but they are not adding on to the human scrap-heaps. Every effort is made to reclaim them, with results that are eminently satisfactory. As there are no suitable institutions for the reception of such cases in the Colony, the boy should be sent home. That is a duty which Society owes to itself and to him. If only from a business point of view, it is well worth risking a few pounds to see if he cannot be made into a useful citizen of the Empire.

Although one of their number, Mr. Ho Fook, has generously presented another aeroplane to the Imperial Government on behalf of the Colony, the members of the local branch of the Overseas Club still cherish the hope that it may be possible to raise funds from the British community for the purchase of a further aeroplane for the front. The sum required is, I believe, about \$15,000—a rather formidable total for a small organisation, but you never know what you can do till you try. Judging by the liberal response which has been made recently to appeals on behalf of war funds the flow of money for the Great Cause seems to be inexhaustible as Tennyson's brook, and that is an encouraging sign. It would be impossible to appeal for a better object. Repeated tributes have been paid to the value of the Royal Flying Corps in reporting the enemy's movements, beating off hostile aircraft, and bombing the enemy's trenches, transports, railway junctions, and munitions depots. The wastage of aircraft, however, is very heavy, and by helping to repair it Hongkong will be able to feel that it is delivering a direct blow at the enemy in the field, accelerating the triumph of our arms, and helping to reduce the casualties among our gallant troops.

"People talk about London's extravagance," observes a correspondent, "but what about Hongkong? If some people in this Colony were to carry on in London in the way they do here at the present time I do not know what would happen to them. The slogan is 'Save your spare cash and assist the nation.' How many of us are really doing this seriously and systematically in Hongkong? I wonder how much money would be saved by cutting out 'eleven o'clockers.' Within an hour the people who indulge in them are together again for a small appetiser before tiffin, and so on, in many cases, throughout the day until a late hour in the evening. Now can it be pretended that all these 'revivers' are necessary to the day's work? Of course, they are not."

The writer proceeds:—"And what would be realised each month, I wonder, if one of these little 'schools' decided to 'cut it out' and pool the money thus saved? The 'school' would be very much surprised, I am sure, at the financial result; and I am writing from experience. A drink or two a day, even in war time, is no great sin, but the 'nips' could very well be dispensed with. So could the 'joy-rides' or 'head-coolers,' as some describe a motor jaunt at mid-night. Quite a large sum of money must be spent each month in Hongkong on such extravagances—joy-rides and cocktails—at a time when strict economy is the duty of us all. Large sums of money have been sent home from this Colony, I know, but there has been no 'pinch' felt yet. It requires somebody to lead the reform, and commence a campaign."

(Continued at foot of next column.)

YACHTING.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The results of the fifth of the series of Club Championship Races for Cruisers of Chinese and English rig which was sailed on Saturday last are as follows:—

Course:—North Fairway Buoy (S), Stonecutters Island (S). Distance 8 miles.

Starting Line, Murray Pier and Outer Naval Buoy. Finishing Line, Club House, North Point.

Yacht	Handicap	Finishing time	Corrected time
	M.S.	h. m. s.	h. m. s.
Miranda...	Scratch	4 31 43	4 31 43
Oenone	2 40	5 01 15	4 58 35
Dorothy II	5 20	4 47 10	4 42 50
Scotengden	5 20	5 03 10	4 57 50
Lady Godiva	18 40	D.N.S.	

Position	Points for race	Points to date
(1) Miranda...	5	23
(2) Dorothy II	4	12
(3) Scotengden	3	19
(4) Oenone	2	
(5) Lady Godiva		

* Winner of Championship.

Yacht	Handicap	Finishing time	Corrected time
	M.S.	h. m. s.	h. m. s.
Feathers...	Scratch	4 46 55	4 46 55
Queen Bee	8 00	D.N.S.	
Irene	12 00	4 35 27	4 23 27
Vesper	16 00	5 00 00	4 44 00

Position	Points for race	Points to date
(1) Irene	5	18
(2) Vesper	3	6
(3) Feathers	2	18
(4) Queen Bee		

† Tie for Championship.

COMMODORE'S CUP.

CRUISE OF ALL CLASSES.

Course:—North Fairway Buoy (S), Stonecutters Island (S). Distance 8 miles.

Starting Line, Murray Pier and Outer Naval Buoy. Finishing Line, Club House, North Point.

Yacht	Handicap	Finishing time	Corrected time
	M.S.	h. m. s.	h. m. s.
Feathers...	Scratch	4 46 55	4 46 55
Miranda	Scratch	4 31 43	4 31 43
Oenone	4 00	5 01 15	4 57 15
Queen Bee	5 20	D.N.S.	
Vesper	12 00	5 00 00	4 48 00
Irene	12 00	4 35 27	4 23 27
Dorothy II	12 00	4 47 10	4 35 10
Scotengden	14 40	5 03 10	4 48 30

* Winner.

COMMODORE'S CUP.

RACING YACHTS OF ALL CLASSES.

Course:—North Fairway Buoy (S), Trocas Rock (S), Chanels Rock (S). Distance 11.44 miles.

Starting and Finishing Line, Club House, North Point.

Yacht	Handicap	Finishing time	Corrected time
	M.S.	h. m. s.	h. m. s.
Dione	Scratch	5 24 06	5 24 06
Holla	1 45	5 10 23	5 08 29
Jessica	4 46	D.N.F.	
Kathleen	7 38	D.N.S.	
Colleen	7 38	D.N.F.	
Aileen	7 38	D.N.S.	
Daphne	19 05	5 48 14	5 29 09
Aurora	22 54	5 48 51	5 29 56
Bonita	22 54	5 53 45	5 31 09
Balcyon	22 54	5 49 45	5 29 51
Lynbach	25 46	5 52 04	5 36 18
Dawn	26 40	6 10 52	5 44 32
Sirius	26 37	D.N.F.	
Lady Ursula	29 37	D.N.S.	
Thecla	29 35	D.N.S.	
Toinette	29 35	D.N.S.	
Musetta	57 15	D.N.S.	

* Winner.

against extravagance." Apropos of this I am told that a well-known man who has recently arrived in our midst declared the other evening that he found this little outpost of Empire less affected by the war than any other place that he had visited.

After a good day's golf at Fanling and when sixteen healthy appetites had been fully appeased, someone thought of other needs, and in a very few minutes an auction was in full swing on behalf of War Charities. The auctioneer was not the persuasive Mr. White, but I doubt whether even Mr. White's "touching" eloquence would have raised more than \$150 for an old pipe, or \$100 for a battered umbrella. "Any old thing," as one of the buyers put it, "was offered for sale, and even upon my old cigarette-holder a value was put which made me blush with pride." To raise over \$1,000 after dinner among sixteen golfers is no mean achievement.

One of the most noticeable features at the Stanley Street fire last week was the cheerfulness with which the Chinese members of the Hongkong Police Reserve tackled the duties assigned to them. Some of them who were in mufti took off their coats, rolled up their sleeves, and set to work unloading riches and lifting them over the fire-hose. A few years ago they would have regarded this with disdain as coolie work. Now they understand the dignity of labour in a good cause.

ROBERTSON RANDOM.

PASSAGE ON A GERMAN BOAT.

MR. BESWICK SUES LIQUIDATORS OF THE N.D.L.

At the Hongkong Supreme Court yesterday, before the Chief Justice (Sir William Rees Davies) and the Puisne Judge (Mr. Justice Gompertz), the case was continued in which Charles Williamson Beswick, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., is claiming \$732.99 from Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews, as liquidators of the Norddeutscher Lloyd Co.

The case came up for hearing some time ago, when defendants were granted a stay in the proceedings to prepare a statement of defence. They have not done so, and plaintiff is now claiming for judgment.

The statement of claim is as follows:—Plaintiff is a natural-born British subject, an assistant in the employ of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. The defendants are the liquidators of the business and affairs of the Norddeutscher Lloyd S.S. Co., duly appointed as such under the Alien Enemies (winding-up) Ordinance of 1914. In March, 1914, plaintiff contracted with the shipping company in Hongkong for the purchase of, and paid for, a return ticket for a first-class passage for his wife from Hongkong to London, and the shipping company delivered an order entitling plaintiff's wife, upon delivery of the same to representatives of the shipping company in England, to a first-class passage back from London. War broke out, and as a result the shipping company ceased to further employ their steamship and the plaintiff's wife was unable to procure passage back through the said company, and was thereupon compelled to procure passage back to Hongkong by other means. The plaintiff has therefore suffered damage to the extent of \$732.99.

Mr. C. D. Wilkinson appeared on behalf of plaintiff, and Mr. E. Davidson represented defendants.

Mr. Wilkinson said he hoped that this would be the last stage of the hearing, and he moved for judgment accordingly. Mr. Wilkinson said he was not clear as to what method of procedure would be adopted to-day. The defendants were asking for a stay of judgment in order that it might be proved that German law could be applied to Great Britain.

Mr. Davidson remarked that he was merely asking for further time in which to file a defence; he was asking for the indulgence of the Court. The case for the other side seemed to be that it did not matter whether the defendants were alien enemies or not. He (Mr. Davidson) held that the fact that they were alien enemies did not preclude them from the indulgence of the Court. The real question was whether their Lordships should refuse a stay on the ground that the defendants were alien enemies.

The Puisne Judge—Your case is that you have a good defence and that at present you are embarrassed and cannot put that defence forward owing to a temporary effect, that effect being that a state of war has been declared.

Mr. Davidson said that that was so, and remarked, also, that their Lordships must assume that the application was a good one on the merits. He would also show that the fact that the defendants were alien enemies was not enough.

The Chief Justice—Assuming this war goes on for five or more years, which God forbid, then you say that the Court should stay proceedings until the end of the war?

Mr. Davidson—All I am asking your Lordships to say is, the fact that defendants are alien enemies does not make any difference. It is quite possible that this will not involve an adjournment until peace is declared, but it will certainly involve a delay. Mr. Wilkinson's point is that because I am an alien enemy I have no case. He has got to show that the mere fact of being an alien enemy bars me from the Court's indulgence.

The Puisne Judge—I do not know whether this is the proper time to deal with it, or later on. You say, Mr. Davidson, that you wish to show a defence in German law. Well, your defence, I take it, is something like this:—Our neglect or refusal to carry plaintiff from London to Hongkong is due to the outbreak of war. Well, should a British subject enter into a contract, which he would be released from in the event of any

happening of State, say the outbreak of a war, then the contract was negative by the outbreak of war.

Mr. Davidson—My defence is, of course, that on the outbreak of war both parties were relieved of the contract. The Puisne Judge—But you have the plaintiff's money?

Mr. Davidson—Yes, of course, but the money will be paid back. The defendants were willing to do that from the beginning. I have been instructed from the beginning to pay the money back, but this is a claim for damages incurred in the plaintiff having to travel by a P. & O. boat after the defendants had contracted to take him on one of their boats.

Mr. Wilkinson intimated that he had never heard before that the defendants were prepared to pay the money to the plaintiff.

The Puisne Judge—I have never heard it before.

Mr. Davidson—No, because the claim is one for damages for breach of contract, and according to German law we are not responsible for damages. According to English law we are. Mr. Davidson then suggested that evidence should be taken on commission at Shanghai, where there were German lawyers, and added that if a German subject were interned in this Colony the Court would hear his evidence, and if a German were interned in the Straits Settlements his evidence would be taken on commission.

Their Lordships disagreed with the suggestion that evidence could be taken on commission at Shanghai.

Mr. Wilkinson, on this point, remarked that the Germans in Shanghai were subject to the jurisdiction of Germany, they had never lost their domicile in Germany, therefore, a commission could not issue, but a letter of request could be obtained through diplomatic channels. His friend, he added, was asking for an adjournment for an indefinite period, by which time his (Mr. Wilkinson's) client might be dead, or there might be no Germany at all. The Court had absolute discretion to stay proceedings in any matter, of course, and in this connection he expressed the opinion that the insertion in the local Ordinance of section 5 (Ordinance 11 of 1915)—giving the Court power to stay proceedings—was absolutely unnecessary. He also urged that all the interests of justice should be served in the present case.

The Puisne Judge—Suppose we order the money to be paid into Court until such time as the case may be decided?

Mr. Wilkinson—What, for ten, or perhaps twenty years? He also remarked that it would be contrary to justice to have the proceedings stayed until such time as would enable the other side to prove that owing to certain consequences they were relieved of their liability, or until such time as they would be able to prove that his client could not bring any action at all to recover anything, according to German law. Possibly German law would take no notice of any action brought there. By German law, as far as they know, plaintiff might be debarré at the present moment from making any claim. Therefore, he said that it was contrary to natural justice to stay the proceedings. The whole idea that there could be a plea of an alien enemy in defence was very old, and had been exploded altogether.

Subsequently the Chief Justice intimated that their Lordships would like time to consider the matter, as the point was whether they could go into the matter at all. The question was an important one, and they would like time to consider it. If, in the meantime, they would like to hear further argument, they would let the solicitors know. The hearing was then adjourned.

NEW ISSUE OF EXCHEQUER BONDS.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation inform us that they have received a telegram from their London office to the effect that applications will now be received by the Bank of England for British 5 per cent. exchequer bonds, repayable in five years, but bondholders will have the option of repayment in 1919, if desired. The issue is at par. Bonds are in even amounts from \$100 to \$5,000, and may be registered at the Bank of England free of charge. Persons not ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom will be exempt from British income-tax in respect of the interest on these bonds in the same manner as previous issues.

An issue of smaller bonds—25 to £50—will be made by the Post Office in England after 25th April.

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is Best Zephyr, light in weight.

strong in texture.

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are the newest effects in Shirts and Comprise a variety of Neat Stripes in all colours. The Dye is the best obtainable.

THE FINISH

is the best, while the shape is fully fashioned by expert London Shirtmakers.

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BRITISH THROUGHOUT.

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Nam Hing Loong.

PINTS—\$26.50 per case

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or \$3.40 per dozen.

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WOOD

TEAKWOOD, MADE ANY SHAPE OR STYLE.

TWIN BEDS AND COTS.

WIRE SPRING MATTRESSES.

89

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

OVERSEAS CLUB.

A MEETING of the Members will be held TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY), 18th April, in Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.'s Mess Room (4th floor), Royal Buildings, at 6 p.m.
All Members are especially requested to attend. [522]

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Undersigned on THURSDAY, the 3rd May, 1917, at Noon. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 19th instant to the 3rd May, both days inclusive.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 16th April, 1917. [523]

THEATRE ROYAL.

"SCENES FROM SHAKESPEARE"

(as arranged for ST. GEORGE'S DAY)
WILL BE REPEATED IN AID OF WAR CHARITIES
ON WEDNESDAY, 25TH APRIL,
MATINEE AT 5 P.M.
ON SATURDAY, 28TH APRIL,
AT 9.15 P.M.
Booking Opens at Messrs. MOUTRIE & Co., on WEDNESDAY, 15th April, at 9 A.M.
PRICES AS USUAL:
\$3. \$2. \$1.
(Children Half-Price on the Matinee).
Soldiers and Sailors in uniform will be admitted at Half-Price. [524]

ULDERUP & SCHLUTER
(IN LIQUIDATION).

SECOND AND LAST DIVIDEND OF 10 PER CENT.

CREDITORS of the above Firm are hereby notified that a Second and Last Dividend of 10 per cent. on the amount of their Claims will be paid on application to the Undersigned.
W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
No. 5, Duddell Street,
Liquidators. [525]

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

COLOMBIA.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO VIA HONOLULU, JAPAN PORT, MANILA, ANG-AN AND MANILA.

THE above-mentioned vessel having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their goods are being landed at their risk into the Hazardous and/or extra Hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.
Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that they must produce an Import Permit signed by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, Hongkong, before Bills of Lading can be countersigned.
All broken, chafed and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on SATURDAY, 21st inst., at 10 A.M. All Claims must be presented within a month of the steamer's arrival here, after which they cannot be recognized.
No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after 23rd inst., will be subject to rent.
No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.
Consignees are requested to send in their Bills of Lading immediately for countersignature.

PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO.

By R. C. MOERTON,

General Agent.

Hongkong, 16th April, 1917. [526]

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

MESSRS. W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co. have now REMOVED to No. 5, DUDDELL STREET. All communications in future should be sent to that address.
Hongkong, 11th April, 1917. [510]

NOTICE.

CAPTAIN D. A. LUKEMANOFF, RUSSIAN VOLUNTEER FLEET Agent for Nagasaki and Hongkong, has the honour to notify the clients of the Company that the political changes in Russia do not affect the Company's business, which will be carried on as usual. [502]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of Members will be held on SATURDAY, the 21st April, 1917, at 12 O'CLOCK NOON, at the Office of the JOCKEY CLUB, on the Ground Floor of the HONGKONG CLUB ANNEX, Chater Road.
By Order,
T. F. HUGH,
Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1917. [520]

JAPANESE LESSONS.

T. NAKAHARA.

Top Floor,
9A, Praya East,
Wanchai.

[522]

PUBLIC COMPANIES

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the Society will be held at its Head Office, No. 4, Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 26th April, 1917, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with the Statements of Account to 31st December, 1916, and of declaring Dividends, &c.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Society will be CLOSED from 16th April, to 26th April, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager.
Hongkong, 14th April, 1917. [516]

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the FORTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the Company will be held at its Head Office, No. 4, Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 26th April, 1917, at 12.30 P.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with the Statements of Account to 31st December, 1916, and of declaring Dividends, &c.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 16th April to 26th April, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager.
Hongkong, 14th April, 1917. [517]

BRITISH TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the FIFTY-FIRST ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the Company will be held at its Head Office, No. 4, Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 26th April, 1917, at 12.45 P.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with the Statements of Account to 31st December, 1916, and of declaring Dividends, &c.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 16th April to 26th April, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager.
Hongkong, 14th April, 1917. [518]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Certificate No. 5/NS 1956 dated Hongkong 21st February, 1915, for Three Shares numbered 67339, 14321, and 88668 registered in the name of Mrs. MARIA DAS NEVES RIBEIRO has been LOST or STOLEN, and should this Certificate not be produced to the Bank before the 11th day of May, 1917, a New Certificate for the shares will be issued, and the aforesaid Certificate No. 5/NS 1956 will thereafter be treated by this Corporation as Null and Void.
By Order of the Court of Directors,
N. J. STARR,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 11th April, 1917. [500]

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that 10 Scrip Certificate with respect to 10 Shares numbered 192,201 in the above Office standing in the name of ANIMEDHOX HANSEN (deceased) of Hongkong has been LOST and should the same not be produced before the 24th instant a New Scrip Certificate will be issued in favour of the said ANIMEDHOX HANSEN (deceased), and no transaction taking place under the old Scrip Certificate will be recognized by the Office.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 13th April, 1917. [513]

WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

SECOND ENGINEER for British Steamer "SHEWAN" Manila \$250. Philippine currency.
Apply—
18, NATHAN ROAD,
Kowloon. [519]

WANTED.

A N ELECTRICAL or MARINE ENGINEER is required as a Shift Engineer at the Generating Station of the HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD., Wanchai. Apply in writing accompanied by details of experience and copies of testimonials to The Manager,
HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD.,
St. George's Buildings. [511]

DIOCESAN BOYS' SCHOOL.

WANTED as ASSISTANT ENGLISH TEACHER.
Apply to—
THE HEADMASTER. [501]

WANTED.

OFFICE, centrally situated.
Apply—
Box No. 14,
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [515]

HOUSES TO LET

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Government are prepared to LET an OFFICE to suitable tenant Room No. 5 on the Top Floor of the Post Office Building (New Government Office) in Pedder Street on yearly tenancy.
Further particulars and conditions of letting may be obtained on application at the Office of the Director of Public Works.
CLAUDE SEVEBN,
Colonial Secretary.
Hongkong, 13th April, 1917. [514]

TO LET.

NO. 3, A & B. ROBINSON ROAD.
Apply to—
DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd. [473]

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry. Four very desirable SHOPS situated in Lee Home Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.
For rent and other particulars apply to—
THE MANAGER,
HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.,
46, Connaught Road Central. [401]

TO LET—AT THE PEAK.

FURNISHED and newly painted inside, 3, Stewart Terrace.
Apply—
H. E. POLLOCK,
Prince's Buildings. [97]

TO LET.

NO. 2, ELGIN STREET.
Apply to—
FERCY SMITH, SETH & FLEMING [102]

TO LET.

1 NEW HOUSE in Conduit Road. Ready for occupation. Also 1 GODOWN in Duddell Street.
For rent and other particulars apply to—
H. M. H. NEMAZEE,
1 Des Voeux Road. [402]

TO LET.

FOUR ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.
A FLAT in Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon.
TO LET OR FOR SALE.
KOWLOON MARINE LOT 45 with wharf area 68,000 sq. ft. suitable for Coal Storage or erection of Godowns.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.,
Alexandra Buildings. [291]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 12, Connaught Road Central.
OFFICES in King's and York Buildings.
HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Conduit Road.
HOUSES in Broadwood and Merrett Terraces.
HOUSES on Shamone, Canton.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD. [28]

NOW READY.

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DIRECTOR

AND

CHRONICLE

FOR

CHINA, JAPAN, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, INDO-CHINA, PHILIPPINES, ETC.

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QUALITY.



25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 616 [12]

BIRTH.

GILL.—On 16th April, 1917, to Mr. and Mrs. FREDERICK J. GILL, a son. [521]

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOEUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 111, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 17th April, 1917.

SOUTH AMERICA AND GERMANY.

THE cables during the past few days have told us of the feeling of exasperation which is steadily rising against Germany throughout the whole of the South American continent. If common action should be decided upon, and the three great Republics of Brazil, Argentina and Chile follow the lead of the United States, Germany will lose another vast field of commercial enterprise which her agents have been zealously exploiting for more than a generation. The whole of their pioneer work, from which so much was expected in the near future, will be destroyed at a blow. Brazil has already severed diplomatic relations. Chile, it is true, declared recently that she would take no action until her interests were directly assailed, and Argentina, also, announced her intention of adhering to a policy of strict neutrality, but since then the situation has undergone a great change. The Argentine sailing ship, *Monte Protegido*, has been sunk. It is a small and unimportant incident in the world-wide war on neutral shipping, but the Latin-American temperament is volatile, and the destruction of this little vessel has been sufficient to inflame public opinion throughout the length and breadth of the Argentine Republic. Crowds of people have marched through the streets of Buenos Aires shouting: "Down with the German murderers," and even if the Government itself is loth to be drawn into actual hostilities it is highly probable that the people will force it to take action. It is suggested, a convocation be held of the representatives of Argentina, Brazil and Chile in order to adopt a common policy in relation to the problems raised by the war, there

can be little doubt what that policy will be. Brazil's attitude is already known, and the sympathies of the smaller States—Paraguay, Bolivia and the Republics farther north—which are professedly with the *Entente*, cannot fail to exercise a considerable influence upon the decision. The importance of the movement must not be underestimated, even though the entry of the South American Republics into the war can have little influence upon the progress of events on the battlefields of Europe. Something would be gained by depriving an occasional German raider of its source of information, for, in the past, unquestionably, news regarding the movements of our ships has often been sent to such vessels by secret wireless installations. With the German people interned, or under police supervision, such operations would be impossible. The modern navies of Argentina and Chile, with their three super-dreadnoughts of comparatively recent construction, might serve a useful purpose, but the suggestion that Brazil, which is the least powerful of the three Republics from a military point of view, should reinforce the Allies with an army of 200,000 men is scarcely worthy of consideration, apart from the difficulties of transport. The great blow to Germany will be the loss of her merchant-ships, which are sheltering in every South American port, from Bahia on the Eastern coast to Iquique on the West, and the disorganisation of all her plans for the commercial struggle after the war. The Kaiser and his advisers have always regarded South America, and the southern parts of Brazil particularly, as a promising field for the expansion of German interests. Only a few years ago great excitement was caused by rumours that a political arrangement had been suggested from Berlin under which Great Britain would receive a *quid pro quo* in other parts of the World for allowing Germany to seek "a place in the sun" here. Germany was said to be quite willing to run the risk of North America's intervention on behalf of the Monroe Doctrine. This proposal, if it was ever made, was not countenanced and Germany had to rest content with pursuing her policy of "peaceful penetration." Her commercial interests in South America have assumed very considerable dimensions. With Argentina, for example, her trade was second only to that of the United Kingdom. The entire dislocation of this South American trade will be a far heavier blow than that occasioned by the rupture of diplomatic negotiations with China, and it will probably mean utter ruin for hundreds of thousands of her sons. The German population of South America was increasing by leaps and bounds before the war; in Brazil there are many important settlements where German is practically the only language spoken. Until the United States broke off relations with Germany it was possible for the Germans in South America to maintain constant communication with the Fatherland through New York. Money could be remitted and received through this channel, and even when the United States became a belligerent and this line of communication was closed their prospects were not altogether hopeless. A large proportion are engaged in the industries of the country, and there was nothing to prevent them from trading with the inhabitants. Now there will probably be something in the nature of a boycott, even if all their businesses should not be closed compulsorily. The German newspaper in Buenos Aires, which has been subsidised for the purpose of publishing large Spanish editions in Germany's interests, has already had to close its doors for fear of the violence of the mob. The German banks and the many German commercial houses, which up to the present have been able to maintain, at least, a semblance of prosperity, may soon be obliged to follow suit. When the effects of "unrestricted submarine warfare" are brought home to them as forcibly as this, the opinions which Germans have held on the subject of might and right, regardless of the feelings of others, are likely to undergo a radical change.

The marriage of Lady Ho Kai's son, Mr. Ho Wing Kin, and Miss Ma Shuk Tak will take place this morning at St. Stephen's Church, Pokfulam Road, at 11 o'clock. There will be a reception afterwards at 45, Robinson Road.

A meeting of the members of the Overseas Club will be held to-morrow (Wednesday) in Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.'s Mess Room at 6 p.m.

The annual meeting of shareholders of the Canton Insurance Office, Ltd., will be held at the offices of the General Agents—Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.—on Thursday, May 3rd.

The weekly Religious Meeting of the Helena May Institute will be conducted this afternoon (Tuesday), at 5 o'clock by the Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald. The meeting is open to all women.

Messrs. W. G. Humphreys & Co., the liquidators of the firm of Uderup & Schluter, announce that creditors, on application, will be paid a second and last dividend of 10 per cent. on their claims.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledges with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospitals: J. Reid, \$20; J. R. Michael & Co., \$15; Patell & Co., \$15; Abdoolally Ebrahim & Co., \$10; E. B. Cubey, \$10; G. K. Haxton, \$10.

During the week ending April 14th there were four Chinese cases of small-pox (one imported) in the Colony, of which three proved fatal. In the same period there were seven cases of enteric fever (all Chinese, three being imported), of which two proved fatal; and a non-fatal Chinese case of diphtheria.

We are asked to announce that all ladies who kindly offered to help in selling badges on St. George's Day have had posted to them acceptance of their offers and information as to where they are to sell the badges. Should the communication from the Ladies' Committee not have reached them they are asked to communicate with Mrs. Holyoak, the Secretary, either by telephone or letter.

UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.

TWO HANDSOME DONATIONS.

We are informed that the University Authorities have received the following donations:—

\$50,000 from Mr. Ho Kum-Tong towards a School of Tropical Medicine.
\$50,000 from Mr. Chan Kai Ming towards a School of Pathology.

These Schools, which will be built immediately, will be known by the names of their respective donors.

SHATIN RAILWAY FATALITY
MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE.

There was a sequel to the Shatin railway fatality at the Hongkong Magistracy yesterday when a brakeman named Wong Ching was charged with the manslaughter of Ip Ma Pui, at Shatin, on March 28th.

The Captain Superintendent of Police (Hon. Mr. C. A. McI. Messer) prosecuted, and, in outlining the facts, said defendant was a brakeman and guard of a ballast train which left Kowloon on the 28th of last month at about 7.30 p.m. The train started with an engine, a 30-ton waggon, nine 15-ton waggons, and another 30-ton waggon bringing up the rear. All the waggons were filled with earth. After stopping at Hungnam and Yau-mat, the train proceeded through the tunnel. On the other side of the tunnel it left behind the last 30-ton waggon, and the rest of the train went through the north face of the tunnel, where the coolies unloaded the earth. After leaving Shatin, the train stopped at No. 4 tunnel. The train then returned, the engine pushing the train, the evidence would show his Worship that the couplings between the third and fourth waggons were never dropped down, and the brake pipes were not coupled up properly. The train was fitted with Westinghouse automatic brakes, the chief thing about them being that if anything got broken, the air escaped and the brakes were automatically applied. At Shatin the train stopped and the brakeman put on the brakes, the result being that the engine, a 30-ton waggon, and two 15-ton waggons remained and the other two 15-ton waggons went on to the place where the collision occurred, this being about half a mile way. After this the engine started again, going on until it hit the other part of the train, with the result that Ip Ma-pui was killed and ten others injured, having to be taken to Hospital.
Dr. Smalley deposed that the deceased died as a result of a fractured skull, which could have been caused by being thrown out of a train.
The hearing was adjourned.

THE WAR.

BRITISH PUSHING FORWARD.

IMPORTANT CAPTURES.

RUSSIA AND PEACE.

MORE SUPPORT FOR AMERICA.

SPAIN AND GERMANY.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

BRITISH STILL GAINING GROUND.

SEVERE AERIAL FIGHTING.

LONDON, April 16th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—As a result of the fighting north-westward of St. Quentin we gained ground eastward and northward of Orcourt, and also progressed in the neighbourhood of Hairin Court Wood and eastward of Lievin, approaching the outskirts of Lens.

Later particulars show that the German losses in the attack on the Bapaume-Cambrai road were heavier than at first reported. The attack was pressed with great determination under our heavy fire. There were 300 prisoners and 1,500 dead.

Our aeroplanes carried out successful bombing raids. In severe air-fighting we destroyed four German aeroplanes and drove down eleven others. Ten of ours are missing.

"MERRY LITTLE HELL."

GERMAN REAR-GUARDS AT LENS.

LONDON, April 16th.

The actual occupation of Lens is explainable by the fact that Lens itself is merely the centre of a circle of mining towns and villages forming a vast agglomeration of houses, the boundaries of which are no more clearly marked than the London boroughs. Anyhow, correspondents are able to look down the main streets of Lens, where the German rear-guards are playing "merry little hell," in destroying everything. Twenty thousand grenades were dumped in one mine shaft.

VICTORY OF VIMY RIDGE.

LONDON, April 16th.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters emphasises the important bearing the capture of Vimy Ridge is likely to have in the subsequent operations in the West. He states, on unimpeachable authority, that the victory is directly associated with a pretty little model. This is a wonderful scale reproduction in plasticine of the neighbourhood of the Ridge on which a clever artist, furnished with a mass of aerial photographs and local inhabitants' information, worked for months prior to the attack, and from which Staff Officers most carefully instructed the Canadian and British Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers selected for the assault. The correspondent described the amazing topographical fidelity of the model, which was carried out in colours to the minutest detail, such as the varying of the soil formation of trench systems, the situation of mine-craters, wire entanglements and belts.

FRENCH AND BELGIAN FRONT.

PARIS, April 16th.

A *communiqué* states:—There have been violent artillery actions at St. Quentin and north of the Aisne. Champagne batteries caught and dispersed enemy elements north of Itan Court.

A wireless Belgian *communiqué* states that during the night, after violent artillery preparation, we penetrated at Arras into the second enemy line. The artillery duel was most lively on the whole Belgian front to-day.

SATISFACTORY VICTORIES.

HINDENBURG'S LINE IN "HAIG'S CAGES."

LONDON, April 16th.

The military correspondent of the *Times* says that an entirely well-planned and well-fought battle has resulted in the most satisfactory victories of the war.

The Germans are as thick as peas in France. There are sixty divisions on the British front alone, but gun and howitzer have beaten at the trenches so long, and our artillery superiority has been maintained, that the entrenched Germans must be regarded as lost souls.

The correspondent pays a tribute to the splendid work of all arms, and agrees with the German protestations that the Hindenburg line is intact, but largely in Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig's cages.

EARLIER CABLES.

THE BRITISH ADVANCE.

GERMAN FRONT ONCE MORE BROKEN.

LONDON, April 16th.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters states that the latest British captures include great pyramids of slag near the mouths of coalpits in the neighbourhood of Lens, which the Germans had converted into fortresses. Altogether, the German front has been broken on another four miles.

BRITISH PATROLS ENTER LENS.

LONDON, April 16th.

Lloyd's News correspondent at Headquarters, telegraphing on the 16th inst., states that British patrols have entered Lens. Though the enemy were still in machine-gun redoubts at some places, they are only rear-guards, for the main body has retreated.

This splendid triumph was made possible by the capture of Vimy Ridge, the enemy realising that his last chance of a successful counter-attack had been foiled.

Lens and Lievin had been stacked with guns, of which it is certain that at least 150 were in the network of mines at the pithead.

Prisoners state that wild scenes occurred at Lens. Frantic efforts were made to remove the guns and stores and to defend the line of retreat by blowing up the roads. Orders were given to destroy the mines by firing charges into the pits and by flooding the mine galleries.

LENS ENTERED.

LONDON, April 16th.

Correspondents at the British Headquarters state that the British have entered Lens.

[Lens is a big manufacturing town seventeen miles south-west of Lille, possessing coal mines, sugar factories, etc. It has a population bordering on 30,000.]

STRONG GERMAN ATTACK UNSUCCESSFUL.

LONDON, April 16th.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Early this morning the enemy strongly attacked, on a six miles' front astride the Bapaume-Cambrai road, under cover of a heavy bombardment, our positions from Hermies to Noreuil.

The attack failed everywhere except at Lagnicourt, where the enemy gained a foothold. After heavy fighting, our counter-attack regained the village, our artillery inflicting very heavy losses on his retreating troops. We took prisoner over 900.

We advanced our line to the east of Heninel, progressed to the north of Souchez River and captured defences to the east of Lievin from Bainmont wood to the east corner of Cite St. Pierre.

Our troops are pushing on towards Lens. There has been heavy rain since the early morning.

AUSTRALIA AND CANADA.

MELBOURNE, April 16th.

The Commonwealth Government has cabled congratulations to the Canadians on their great victory at Vimy Ridge.

ACTIVITY ON FRENCH FRONT.

LONDON, April 16th.

A *communiqué* states:—North and south of the Oise, we carried out night reconnaissances and everywhere found the enemy trenches occupied. We brought back prisoners.

To the east of Maison de Champagne, our reconnaissances penetrated German trenches, which we found utterly wrecked by our fire. We brought back a quantity of material.

On the right bank of the Meuse, two German attacks at Bois de Caubieres and in the direction of Les Chambrettes were broken by fire. Some infantrymen who penetrated our advanced line at Bois de Caubieres were either killed or made prisoners.

On the 12th, 13th and 14th inst. we brought down twenty-one aeroplanes, while four more were compelled to land badly damaged. A captive balloon was brought down ablaze.

Our bombarding aeroplanes dropped 4,160 kilogrammes of projectiles on railway stations in the region of Metziers and Sedan.

On the night of 13th-14th inst., we effectively bombed barracks at Dreuze and the railway station at Bethinville.

GERMAN ADMISSIONS.

LONDON, April 16th.

A German official wireless message says:—In consequence of the removal of our line to the north of the Scarpe, there have been only minor engagements, in which the enemy has suffered heavily.

From the Scarpe lowland to the Arras-Cambrai Railway there was violent fighting yesterday. British massed divisions attacked several times, but were sanguinarily repulsed. We took three hundred prisoners.

The artillery duel continues in Western Champagne and between Soissons and Rheims.

The Franco-British and Americans lost twenty-one aeroplanes and two balloons. We brought down three British aviators participating in an attack on Freiburg.

Naval Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

PIRACY.

CHRISTIANA, April 16th.

The survivors of two torpedoed Danish vessels officially reported sunk far outside the German danger zone, have arrived here.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

TROUBLE AT KRUPPS.

MORE WAGES WANTED.

AMSTERDAM, April 16th.

The workmen and officials at Krupp's works at Kiel have demanded an immediate increase in food allowance and wages, amounting to 33 per cent. apart from a war bonus. The Directors addressed the men, declaring that they were only drawing the allowances of the most menial labourers.

The men were incredulous and demanded to inspect the larders, which request was refused.

ARGENTINE AND GERMANY. ANTI-GERMAN DEMONSTRATIONS.

BUENOS AIRES, April 16th.

The anti-German demonstrations continue. A crowd attacked the German Legation, Consulate and journals. The Government is concentrating the German vessels in Argentine waters in Buenos Aires harbour.

EMPIRE BONDS. AN INDIAN OPINION.

LONDON, April 16th.

At Edinburgh, the Maharajah of Bikanir, following Sir R. L. Borden and General Smuts, was greeted with loud cheers. He referred to the great part Scotsmen had played in the East and in other parts of our Dominions, and said that all countries of the Empire were of one mind in the resolve to prosecute the war with all the energy and determination at their command, for the freedom of the world, the right of nations to live their own lives, and for the overthrow of militarism and aggression. (Cheers.) He took that opportunity of acknowledging the patient handling of Imperial problems by the Prime Minister and the Ministers from Overseas and the Dominions. Whatever political and economic decisions might be arrived at by the present Imperial gathering he was convinced that one result would be the strengthening of the ties binding the various parts of the Empire together, strong and enduring as they had already proved themselves to be during the past three years. (Cheers.)

MORE SUPPORT FOR AMERICA.

MONTREAL, April 16th.

The Government of Uruguay has conveyed its sympathy and moral support to the United States on the war declaration.

THE "NEW GERMANY."

WHY NOT NOW?

AMSTERDAM, April 16th.

Maximilian Harden, writing in the *Zukunft*, expresses distrust at the Kaiser's promised constitutional reforms, and declares that it is unnecessary, any how, to postpone the proposals till the end of the war.

AMERICA AND WAR.

APPEAL BY THE PRESIDENT.

WASHINGTON, April 16th.

In a personal appeal to his fellow citizens, President Wilson calls upon every American citizen, man, woman and child to join in the preservation of the nation's ideals for the triumph of democracy throughout the world. The supreme test of the nation has come, and they must all act together. President Wilson has created a Committee of Public Information, composed of Mr. Lansing, Mr. Baker and Mr. Daniels, with the magazine writer, Mr. Creel as Chairman, for the purpose of arranging to supply the views of the public, consistent with military considerations.

"PEACE" MEETING IN LONDON.

AND WHAT RESULTED.

LONDON, April 16th.

A peace meeting in the East End was wrecked. Flags were torn up by an indignant crowd, and two pacifists were hurled over the railings. The proceedings were concluded with a meeting to aid discharged soldiers, and a large sum was realised.

COPENHAGEN COAL FAMINE.

COPENHAGEN, April 16th.

The city is threatened with a coal famine. It is expected that the theatres will close on May 1st.

RUSSIA'S COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

PETROGRAD, April 16th.

General Alexeff has definitely been appointed Commander-in-Chief.

SPAIN AND GERMANY.

IF NEUTRALITY IS BROKEN—1

MADRID, April 16th.

The *Journal* contains several strong articles. One of them states that Spain finds herself at the gravest moment in history. "If neutrality is broken it must be against Germany, which is humiliating us by treating our flag like a rag, which Spain cannot tolerate without morally committing suicide."

EARLIER CABLES.

DOMINION STATESMEN.

WEEK-END WITH KING AND QUEEN.

LONDON, April 15th.

Sir Robert Borden, General Smuts, Sir Edward Morris and the Hon. Mr. W. F. Massey are spending the week-end with their Majesties the King and Queen at Windsor. The Archbishop of York has been invited to meet them.

It is understood that other Dominion statesmen will be similarly entertained later.

DUTCH FEARS.

THE FOOD QUESTION.

AMSTERDAM, April 15th.

Commenting on the American movement to secure the stoppage or control of American exports to neutrals bordering on Germany, the *Telegraaf* says this confirms its view that "Dutch exports to Germany will finally lead to the starving of ourselves."

AMERICA AND WAR.

FINANCIAL LEGISLATION.

WASHINGTON, April 15th.

The House of Representatives has unanimously passed the seven billion dollars war revenue measure.

There were cheers from the floor and the galleries when the figures of 350 votes for and none against were announced.

The Bill limits the distribution of the Foreign Loan to countries actually at war with Germany.

RUSO-AMERICAN CO-OPERATION.

WASHINGTON, April 15th.

It is officially announced that the Government is considering sending a Commission to Russia to ascertain how it can aid the new Government and to consider all phases of Russo-American co-operation in the war.

A large Russian credit will probably be granted as soon as Congress passes the War Loan Bill, possibly before the Commission goes to Russia.

SOUTH AMERICA'S ATTITUDE.

PARAGUAY'S ADHESION.

LONDON, April 15th.

Reuter's correspondent at Asuncion states that Paraguay has declared its adherence to, and sympathy with, the attitude of the United States towards Germany.

PROPOSED ENTENTE.

LONDON, April 15th.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Buenos Aires, it is stated that the Governments of Argentina, Brazil and Chile are negotiating for the convocation at Buenos Aires of an Assembly of the South American Republics, with a view to establishing an Entente of the whole Continent regarding war problems.

"DOWN WITH GERMAN MURDERERS."

LONDON, April 15th.

Reuter's correspondent at Buenos Aires states that excited crowds are parading the streets shouting "Down with the German murderers."

The German newspaper offices are closed, fearing an attack.

GERMAN SHIPS OCCUPIED.

LONDON, April 15th.

Reuter's correspondent at Rio de Janeiro states that Brazilian bluejackets occupied interned German ships amid cheers from the crowds.

SPAIN AND THE WAR.

BREACH OF NEUTRALITY DENIED.

LONDON, April 15th.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Madrid, as a result of a Press outcry that the Government had concluded agreements involving a breach of neutrality, a semi-official communication has been issued declaring that the agreements made by the Government do not modify its policy, neither does its Note to Germany, which is a more vigorous repetition of the Note of February 6th, and which demands that Spanish lives shall be respected. The communication discloses the fact that Germany offered to permit American importations into Spain, even contraband, on condition that the contraband goods remained in Spain, but that Spanish exports for America should be subject to prize regulations.

SOUTH AFRICA'S PRACTICAL LOYALTY.

LONDON, April 15th.

Reuter's correspondent at Cape Town says that at a South African Party Congress, Mr. Malan, the Minister for Mines, announced that the Union Government had decided to grant the Imperial Parliament one million sterling, in recognition of the protection afforded by the Navy, under which exports from South Africa had proceeded as usual.

THE CHANGED RUSSIA.

IN FAVOUR OF CONTINUING WAR.

LONDON, April 15th.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd, the proceedings of the Congress of District Councils and Workmen's and Soldiers' delegates show that an overwhelming majority supports the resolution of the Executive in favour of prosecuting the war.

A small majority of extremists was outvoted when it suggested peace.

BRITAIN'S FOOD PROBLEM.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE'S APPEAL.

LONDON, April 15th.

At a Conference of the Norfolk War Agriculture Committees, held at Norwich, a letter was read from Mr. Lloyd George, appealing to workers on the land to give their utmost help in food-growing, as we may have to feed our Army and Navy, besides ourselves, on home-grown food.

CHINESE TELEGRAM.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."] SHANGHAI, April 16th.

CHINA AND GERMANY.

Our Minister has not yet left Berlin. Some of the members of both Houses of Parliament visited the French Minister at Peking yesterday to discuss diplomatic questions.

A special diplomatic meeting of the Senate is being held to-morrow.

Wang Yi-tang has returned to Tientsin from Russia, and the Premier has called upon him to visit Peking in order to participate in a military conference to report on the state of the European war.

CIGARETTE AND TOBACCO FUND.

The following is the subscription list to date:—

Acknowledged to 15th March, 1917	\$10,392.45
Since received:—	
Kowloon Customs Staff, per Mr. O. D. Gander	61.00
Mr. F. G. Becke, (March sub.)	20.00
"The Robbers' Den"	5.00
A. Bet (April sub.)	40.00
M.S.S. (April sub.)	5.00
Collected by Mrs. Arthur, List No. 5	687.75
	\$20,181.40

Expended to 15th March, 1917

Since expended:—	\$10,315.14
21,000 Woodbine Cigarettes and 18 lbs. "Stolen Kisses" Tobacco distributed amongst Troops in Hongkong	75.60
200,000 Cigarettes sent to the Front	651.34
	19,042.08

Balance on hand

W. A. DOWLEY, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Hongkong, 16th April, 1917.

FOR THE FRENCH RED CROSS.

The Union Church Ladies' Working Party, Hongkong, have sent to the French Red Cross two cases containing the following articles:—

1,388 rolled bandages, 137 eye bandages, 48 pairs of socks, 13 hospital caps, 27 pairs of surgical stockings, 60 shirts, 12 pyjama suits, 7 vests, 40 surgical caps, 100 milk covers, 52 towels, 4 table cloths, and 30 floor swabs.

Also one box of bandages to Miss MacKenzie, Royal Naval Surgery, Orkney.

"THE CARDINAL'S OWN" BOY SCOUTS.

At the request of Monsignor Jackman, Cardinal Bourne's private secretary, the Pope has given his blessing to the Westminster Catholic Boy Scouts, known as "The Cardinal's Own." The Pope's blessing was conveyed in his Holiness' own handwriting beneath a beautifully illuminated photograph of himself. The Holy Father was very pleased to receive a translation of the Boy Scouts' Prayer Book by Bishop Batt.

GERMANY AND HER U-BOATS

NUMBER BUILT AND THE TOTAL DESTROYED.

[BY H. C. FERRABY, "DAILY EXPRESS" CORRESPONDENT.]

How many submarines has Germany built?

How many has she lost?

These two questions are the subject of so much wild exaggeration that it is quite time there was some counterblow. German estimates of 300 built and a thousand building are allowed to circulate, influencing opinion to Germany's advantage and bolstering up the fallen credit of a country whose mechanical ability has always been overrated, because it is adaptive more than inventive.

There appeared in a Swiss newspaper a few days ago a brief paragraph in which it was stated that the official records of the German Admiralty show that over fifty submarines have not returned to port for one reason or another since the beginning of the war.

Here we have the admission of any sort from German sources or German inspired sources of the effect of the British anti-submarine campaign. It is fairly obvious that it was published in order that the statement might be allowed to trickle through to Germany, and there prepare the minds of the people for the ultimately inevitable disclosure of the real figures. It is absolutely certain that this first fragment of the truth is only a fragment, but it is an interesting indication of how heavily the German flotillas must have suffered.

MYTHICAL NUMBERS.

Germany began the war with twenty-one U-boats. For a long time past there has been no mention in the Allied newspapers of the numbers borne by German submarines, but a certain foreign newspaper recently recorded the adventures of U 105. There was also reported to be a U 202, whose commander has published in Germany a diary of his adventures, but there is reason to believe that this number was fictitious and adopted solely for the purposes of publication. No number between 105 and 202 has ever been mentioned anywhere to my knowledge, and the gap is too large to be credible.

We are far more nearly in the region of probability if we estimate the total output of large ocean-going submarines of from 800 to 1,200 tons down to December last at ninety new ones and twenty to replace the first score that were lost in the first few months of the war. It is probable that since the turn of the year the German output has been considerably increased by the adoption of a system of standardisation (an experiment of doubtful ultimate value) by means of which three submarines a week might possibly be delivered.

In addition to the large ocean-going submarines, however, there are the two smaller types known as UB and UC. The former are coastal vessels built mainly for defensive work in the Bight of Heligoland, though capable of crossing the North Sea and attacking fishing fleets. The number of these actually constructed is not known, but it does not seem likely that it exceeds fifty.

The UC type is familiar to Londoners owing to the exhibition of UC 5 at Temple Pier last summer. These little vessels are only built for minelaying, and are not large enough to carry more than twelve mines. Minelaying, however, is now much more efficiently performed by ocean-going U-boats, and I do not think that, all told, more than a score of the UC type have been built.

IMPOSSIBLE TASK.

If we tabulate these conclusions we arrive at the following result:—

Built before the war	21
UB type since the war	110
UC type	20
Total	201

This gives us an average production of all classes in the thirty months of six a month, which is very reasonable when allowance is made for the much lower rate of production in the first few months of the war.

How many of these remain in service? We have no figures to guide us, but the clearest intimation on which to base an estimate is provided by Sir Edward Carson's recent admission to a French journalist that the British Navy has destroyed "a very large number" of German submarines. The Swiss newspaper's estimate of fifty might be called large, but hardly deserves to rank as very large. The First Lord of the Admiralty would not have used those words without carefully weighing their exact purport. He can hardly have had in his mind anything less than a three-figure total, and if we assume the German losses to be 100 we shall be minimising rather than exaggerating the damage inflicted on them.

That leaves them 100 submarines, or, with the addition of the last eight weeks' output, 125 of all classes with the coastline of Europe. It is fairly obvious that they cannot successfully do it.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

GERMAN PLOTS IN AMERICA.

THE "MASTER SPY."
THOUSANDS OF AGENTS.

Sensational developments have followed thick and fast here in the investigation of the German spy plot charged against Dr. Ernest Mathias Sekunna, a German chemist, and Dr. Chandra Chakrabarty, the alleged Bengalese physician (says *The Daily Telegraph's* New York correspondent.) As a summary of their activities in the case, which extended to Washington and other sections of the country, the Federal authorities announce that they have unearthed evidence to show that the German Government threatened President Carranza of Mexico with "the most formidable revolution he had ever known" if he refused to agree to the Zimmermann plan to join Japan in a war on the United States; that Robert Fay, a German army lieutenant, who escaped from the Federal Penitentiary at Atlanta, where he was serving a sentence for plotting against American neutrality, went to Mexico, where he is now in hiding; that \$200,000 has been spent by the German Government in fomenting spy plots in the United States within the last few months; that thousands of German spies are now engaged in different parts of the country in formulating and furthering conspiracies; that the spy system is headed by an agent of the Kaiser's Government, referred to as the "Kaiser's Spy," who is still at large.

In discussing other developments which are growing daily, a high Government official says:—

"There is ample evidence to prove that there is a Master Spy for the German Government in America, directing the activities of the various groups of tools. This man is the hub of this intricate intrigue, and his agents, who number thousands, are believed to be Aliens. Before Von Igel left this country each of these agents received a considerable amount in cash, varying according to the importance of the agents and the work mapped out for him. Despite many arrests and many spoiled plots, the German Government appears to be satisfied with the results accomplished."

The hand of the Master Spy has been discerned in many of the plots unearthed to date, but so far the authorities have been unable to obtain evidence sufficient to stand the test of trial in an American court. Incidentally, the Government official asserted that the trail of the German has been found in most of the peace societies and pacifist organisations which the authorities have had occasion to investigate since the work of the Kaiser's secret agents in this country began to assume such a menacing scope.

The Assistant United States Prosecutor, Mr. John Knox, has announced that he was preparing to bring to trial Representative Buchanan of Illinois, H. H. Robert Powell, Henry B. Martin, H. H. Schuler, and others indicted last year on charges of conspiring to incite strikes in munition plants. Many of the disclosures involve the name of Wolff von Igel, the former Attaché of the German Embassy at Washington, and investigators have good reason to believe that Von Igel was the director of the spy system over the work to the man referred to as the Master Spy only when he found it necessary to leave American soil.

The papers seized from Von Igel's spy headquarters at the time of the Welland Canal plot disclosures were brought on here from Washington for use in developing and following up clues discovered through the investigation of the cases against Sekunna and Chakrabarty. Wolff von Igel, who was mentioned as the instigator of the plot, was arrested in New York in April, 1916, in connection with the Welland Canal plot. He was indicted on May 5th, with Captain Hans Tauscher, and released on \$5,000 bail. Tauscher was tried and acquitted on February 13th, and Von Igel's case was dismissed by request of the State Department. Tauscher and Von Igel sailed with Count Bernstorff on the *Frederik VIII.* for Copenhagen on February 14th, en route for Germany.

The Washington Correspondent of the Wireless Press states that a round-up of all Hindu-German Clubs is taking place throughout the whole of the United States. The conspiracy even extends from Panama to the Philippines. The headquarters of the plotters would appear to be a 200-acre farm situated some 400 feet above the level of the sea in a desolate and mountainous region, near Fishkill, which is a veritable nest of conspirators.

"NOT MORE THAN 200."

A special telegram from Zurich on the 17th to the *Matin* says that German papers have stated that the commerce submarine *Deutschland* has ceased its functions as a Commerce-raider, but it would not be true to suppose that she is no longer useful. In reality she is being used to provision other submarines, and has been fitted to carry a very considerable quantity of petrol. German submarines are wanted in good time of the locality where the *Deutschland* may be found. According to experts conversant with German maritime affairs these submarines cannot remain at sea more than a fortnight without returning to their bases. They are sent out in squads, and the first left on February 5th, and their return was expected towards the 19th. After a fourteen days' cruise it is necessary that the submarines should be placed in dry dock in order that their engines may be thoroughly overhauled and made the object of minute examination. It is confirmed that the number of existing submarines does not reach 200. It will take months to build submarines to make good the losses they sustain, and to carry out the constant trial runs necessary for the captains and crews to become accustomed to the handling of their particular boat. *Exchange Telegraph Company.*

ANGLO-RUSSIAN ALLIANCE.

HISTORIC FUNCTION HELD IN PETROGRAD.

The Anglo-Russian Society entertained the British delegates to the Petrograd Conference at a numerously attended banquet on February 12th. M. Rodzianko, President of the Duma, was in the chair. The guests included M. Pokrovsky, Minister for Foreign Affairs, General Polivanoff, former Minister of War, M. Sazonoff, and Sir George Buchanan, Lady Georgina Buchanan and other ladies were also present.

After the loyal toasts had been duly honoured, M. Rodzianko, in proposing the health of the British delegates, said that it was his great privilege to welcome them on behalf of the Anglo-Russian Society and of the Russian Parliamentary institutions, whose representatives were with them without distinction of party. He felt that the work of the Conference would lay sure the foundation of victory over the foe. All Russians were convinced that their alliance with the British nation corresponded not only with the requirements of the war, but with the interests of all nations. He drank to the health of his English friends and to the permanency of the alliance.

CLOSER CO-OPERATION.

In returning thanks Lord Milner, who was much applauded, humorously remarked that, inasmuch as they were so kindly interested in the health of the delegates, he could assure them that they were all doing very well in spite of the storm. He would almost say the hurricane of hospitality which they had had to weather in Petrograd and in Moscow. He hoped that their mental balance would be equally well preserved. That was somewhat difficult, in view of the rumours by which they were assailed on all sides.

He would ask them not to believe all they heard about the doings of the Conference. There was nothing sensational in its character. The principles underlying our alliance were laid down long ago. He could not, for obvious reasons, discuss details. The Conference had, however, done so much good in bringing about closer co-operation in their joint efforts that it was a matter for some surprise to him how the alliance had managed to get along without such a Conference in the past, and he felt sure that if the struggle became protracted they would have to meet again. It was only by such means as the Conference afforded that they could arrive at a full certainty that they were pursuing the right paths. He heartily shared the sentiments of M. Rodzianko that their two countries and peoples were possessed of qualities which rendered partnership between them beneficial to themselves and to mankind.

BRITISH MARITAL POWER.

In proposing the toast of the British army and navy, General Polivanoff quoted the words of Mr. Lloyd George in a speech delivered two years ago regarding the aims and purposes of the great war. The Allied countries had since then been preparing victory, while the task of achieving victory had been gallantly carried out during the past 31 months by the Allied armies and navies. The achievements of British sailors had endeared them for ever to Russian hearts. The British army had been magnified by the spirit of the people to an extent unprecedented in history. They were valiantly fighting on the Continent, and in this and in the final stages of the war they would represent a terrible menace to the Germans. He would ask the British visitors to accept a tribute of deepest respect for the marital power developed by their country.

Admiral Jerram, replying on behalf of the Navy, said that with the able co-operation of the Allies the British fleet had successfully driven the German fleet from all the high seas and had enabled the British army to send millions of men and millions of tons of munitions across the channel. The latest submarine threat of Germany was at present exercising the minds of British sailors, and he felt sure that a way would be found to cope with the difficulty.

General Headlam, the senior British military delegate, replying for the British Army, spoke of the military value of the Conference in affording an opportunity of observing the methods and taking advantage of the experience of the Allies. In his own arm, the artillery, that perhaps was most necessary, and fortunately it was there that the union was most complete. It had been his good fortune on many occasions to have French or Belgian batteries placed under his orders. They were not content to work together, and had learnt much from such close companionship. He had seen and admired the arrangements for last autumn's Italian offensive, and he hoped as soon as the labours in the Conference rooms had concluded to have a similar opportunity here. Already he had learnt much from the discussion with Russian officers, who, from the Grand Duke Sergius downwards, had ungrudgingly given their time. The members of the Anglo-Russian Society would appreciate how valuable such an interchange of views must be. They had all had new conditions to face and new problems to solve—sometimes successfully, sometimes not altogether so; but they could all profit by each other's failures and from their successes. We had recognised all the difficulties the Russian army had to contend with, and we yielded to none in our admiration for the spirit of chivalry which guided Russia's strategy and for the gallantry of her soldiers.

M. SAZONOFF.

Sir George Buchanan, in proposing the health of the newly-appointed Russian Ambassador in London, reviewed M. Sazonoff's past work in bringing about the Anglo-Russian understanding. During the Balkan Wars of 1912-1913 it was largely due to M. Sazonoff's loyal co-operation with Sir Edward Grey that a European war was avoided. In looking back on his conversations with his Excellency during that long crisis he remembered how M. Sazonoff more than once advocated the adherence of Great Britain to the cause of the Allies.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

THE COMING SUMMER.

MR. HENDERSON'S CONFIDENCE.

At Manchester, recently, Mr. Arthur Henderson, one of the four members of the War Cabinet, was presented with his portrait in oils by the Friendly Society of Ironfounders, of which he is the honorary president. A tea and coffee service was given to Mrs. Henderson, in whose absence it was accepted by her daughter.

Mr. Henderson, in the course of his reply, referred to the great part which organised labour had taken in connection with the war. No class of the community had displayed a more splendid patriotism, a more unswerving loyalty to the interests of the community and the Allied cause than had the trade union movement during the whole of the war. (Cheers.) "I admit," he continued, "that there have been occasions when certain small sections who ought to have known better and done differently have given reason for disquietude, but throughout the whole history of the trade union movement there is no chapter in my humble opinion that will stand more to its credit than the magnificent work which it has done, the noble response it has made, or the tremendous sacrifice it has imposed on itself in its determination to do its duty which has characterised the overwhelming majority of the movement. I have no hesitation in saying that unless organised labour had subscribed its portion, as it has done, to the unity of the nation the great war still not concluded would long ago have been lost and won, and the cause we are associated with in connection with our Allies would have been lost. (Cheers.) I venture to suggest, having gone so far, that no matter how long or how short the period of the war may be, there is every evidence that organised labour is going to stand true and loyal to the interests of the community to the end, until all our united efforts have resulted in a victory for our cause that will be final and complete." (Cheers.) He hoped they had formed by what had occurred a co-partnership between the State and the majority of the people and that as years went on that would grow closer and closer, stronger and stronger, and that it would work out to the mutual interest of the State and of the working population. (Cheers.) Never again should the industrial life of this country have standing to its disgrace some of the social anomalies, the industrial tragedies, that had disgraced the industrial and social life of a great civilised community. Capital and Labour had often in the past, in the settlement of their differences by lock-out or strike, forgotten that there was a third party, the community, whose interests were being seriously jeopardised. By some means or other he hoped by a process of education, as the result of this war, we should learn to recognise that settling their differences as in the past was not only inconsistent with our present standard of civilisation, but that it was inflicting punishment on tens of thousands of innocent people. He trusted, therefore, that the co-partnership would be so extended that it would be recognised that the strike and lock-out, if they had to come at all, would be very different things to be associated with industrial life.

Mr. Henderson concluded:—I have been officially associated with the Government for something like twenty months, and I have no hesitation in saying that the standard of confidence—fully justified, I believe, by the information I possess—that the standard of confidence by which I am now influenced with regard to the final close of this great war was never so high as it is at this moment. (Cheers.) And the reason for it is this: Our allies were never so large, never so well trained, never so well equipped, and, may I say, that I do not think they were ever better fed. (Cheers.) That being so, not only our Commander-in-Chief, but the leaders of the Allied Forces, will be very much surprised, and I have no doubt he shall all be disappointed, if during the coming summer we do not strike such a blow which, with other conditions which at present prevail, and may prevail to a much fuller extent in the next few weeks, will lead the war to a close on terms that will be satisfactory to us in this hall and those with whom we are associated in the fight. (Cheers.)

to the Franco-Russian alliance as the only thing likely to restrain Germany in the prosecution of a policy which, as he foresaw, must sooner or later plunge Europe into war. M. Sazonoff's forecast had been correct, and it was Germany's policy of wanton aggression that eventually converted the Anglo-Russian understanding into an alliance that had been cemented with their children's blood.

In returning thanks, M. Sazonoff, after paying tribute to Sir George Buchanan's own great services in bringing two countries together, said that, although they had not been successful in keeping the peace of Europe, he felt sure that nobody present at the banquet would be condemned by his people, inasmuch as all knew how passionately they desired to save Europe from bloodshed. He was addressing them in the quality of Russian Ambassador to England, in fullest appreciation of the great responsibilities of that exalted post. He hoped that the British nation would never doubt the sincerity of his desire to bring about such relations between Great Britain and Russia as would leave no room for mistrust or misunderstanding. Credit was so much the soul of politics as of commerce, and he asked for the confidence of the British people towards himself.

Lord Rayleigh, proposing the toast of the Anglo-Russian Society, said that this institution had arisen at an opportune moment, when the armies of both countries had established a fast comradeship between the British people and the Russian people. The British people were animated by a firm confidence in the durability of an alliance that was based alike on bonds of sympathy and of common interests. Russia offered a rich field for enterprise, and it was the duty of Englishmen to help Russia to develop her resources, inasmuch as our own welfare and prosperity were closely bound up with that of our friend and ally.

WHAT ENGLAND MEANS TO ME.

[BY CHRIS MASSIE.]

I do not think there is enough power in language to describe the sensations of a British soldier, who, after long service in France, returns for a short interval to his native land. Music of a noble character might explain a little of what he feels, but even that only vaguely—only a bare explanation of things on the surface of his soul. The very deep has no interpretation either in art or literature. If I were a Frenchman no doubt I should love France as much; but I am an Englishman, and I love England. I am a Socialist, and I know there are Socialists who are dull enough to despise this sentiment; but these men have not delved deep enough into primary causes; they do not see that nationality is a legitimate claim—an instinct, and a true instinct.

The love of one's country does not necessarily imply blind confidence in everything English. Love is a feeble, foolish thing when it places passion before judgment. The true lover, the true patriot, would place the integrity of his country before popular sentiment, and be ready and even eager to lose caste for himself that he may gain honour for his country.

But if only in a domestic sense the love of one's country is as natural as the love of one's mother. There is a pathos about the beauty of our land which brings tears to the eyes. All of us return to France with that account of ourselves. It has been an emotional experience beyond compare. War gets its tragic music out of men; it places a finger on every nerve; it digs deep into human nature, and brings to the surface crude elements of life. For strange men, such as we are, a visit to England is a visit to Palestine, a trip to London, a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Out here I have visualised St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey. I have written of them as they seemed to me in France. I have loved them as I thought they ought to be loved. But I have seen them again and now I know that I can never love them as they deserve to be loved.

And the National Gallery? I do not mean the structure, but the pictures it contains. You feel like offering up a prayer, which is perhaps the best prayer—to feel like offering up one. Turner and Constable teach me again to love England. Every picture is so much gift of immortal life to the glory of our land, to the dignity of our race. In England to-day one can feel the intimate presence of Shakespeare and Milton.

And yet I have not changed my Socialist propensities at all. I have not broadened them. The national sense has strengthened my Socialism. I do not feel for the French or Russians what I feel for my own people. I am still a Socialist, but I have gathered a little more experience and a little more public feeling. I am an Englishman after all.

I have often wondered why Ireland and Scotland claim for themselves all the romantic associations—all the heroic lore, connected with our isles. An Irishman will talk for hours about Ireland, and a Scotman will talk for years about Scotland. An Englishman never talks about England. Why is that? Most of the songs we sing at the front are songs of Scotland and Ireland. "Tipperary," "A Little Bit of Heaven," "Sing a Song of Bonnie Scotland." When Irish eyes are smiling, "If they ask you where you come from"—and so on. The other songs are ragtime melodies of America: "Dixie," "Tennessee," "Kentucky" are the historic objects of haunting melodies. Of England there is nothing. You might search in the back of your brain and find "Land of hope and glory," but that is rather above the average Tommy's medium.

We do not talk about England. All Scotland worships Robbie Burns. We listen and marvel and often join in the chorus of adulation. But we never count it with Shakespeare; we don't mention Milton; we never "swank" about Keats or Coleridge. There is a good reason provided in the fact that not so many Englishmen have read these worthies. But I have read Burns far more scrupulously than many enthusiastic Scotsmen. I have loved him for his art and humanity, and honoured him as a pioneer, as I have honoured Cowper and Black and Keats, who were all pioneers in their several ways.

Against all this is the silence of an Englishman. He will shout the praises of Jock and Paddy, but for himself there is a fine aloofness, an inborn disdain. "Are our traditions so great that we cannot measure them off with the tongue? Perhaps there is something in that, but it does not account altogether for the attitude of boredom. Magna Charta, the Reformation, Cromwell, and succeeding battles for popular representation and public rights are things which an Englishman hates to discuss. Even the golden story of the Armada scarcely rouses his enthusiasm. It is very beautiful, he thinks, in the history books for little children.

All this, however, is only on the surface of the Englishman. Englishmen dread sentiment and detest heroics; and perhaps for the very reason that they are the most heroic and sentimental people in the world. Strangely enough, an Englishman can be splendidly emotional in the French language and not feel conscious of making a fool of himself. In English it is all different. When he is talking English he is talking sense—horrible sense; and any departure from that is an inflection, an inexcusable insult to one's race. It is rather a pity that we are so ponderous so heavy-handed, for beneath the difficulties of language is a rich vein of feeling the unexplored territory of Albion. Every Englishman has his own England. It is most often in the heart (Continued at foot of next column.)

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of some woman, set to sweet music, against the background of a Sussex lane or a Devonshire dale. For myself, I have been moving my body about from one chalky shell hole to another on the Somme, but in actuality I have been living in my Bech Wood beyond Chingford. I used to dream of it in those old pre-war days. I saw it peopled by Elizabethan folk when those grand old trees were saplings and the world young. I have loved it so much that I could not visit it in uniform. There is some place, somewhere, for all of us which is most specially and particularly—England.

I hate war. That is said by every strong true soldier in France. We are fighting to end it all. The possibility of such a world disaster must not occur again. We are even ready to give you a glut of it to the last mouthful, providing it is to be an end—and for ever. But I love England—my country. There's a sneaking feeling round my heart, and I cannot help myself. If it were a sin I should still love England. But as it is not a sin, but a true instinct, like brother for brother, like child for mother—I am happy in my love. That is what I feel, and what all fighting Englishmen feel. It is a good feeling.

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Qant, n Samshui and Wuchow	7.30 A.M. Regia. 5.00 P.M. Letters 6.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.
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Kongmoon	6.00 P.M. Except Saturdays	5.00 P.M.
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